Patent Claims:

1 – 11 (canceled)

12. (new) A brush seal for sealing a gap between a rotor and a stator, comprising:

a brush ring having a multiplicity of sealing bristles, and with at least two annular brush ring carriers extending in the circumferential direction of the rotor, each brush ring being fixed between a first end face of a first brush ring carrier and a second end face of a second brush ring carrier, and the second brush ring carrier being directly fixed axially and radially to the first brush ring carrier,

wherein the second brush ring carrier is fixed to the first brush ring carrier by an unrealeasable snap connection.

13. (new) The brush seal as claimed in claim 12, wherein a slot is formed between the first brush ring carrier and the second brush ring carrier and the slot receives the brush ring.

14. (new) The brush seal as claimed in claim 12, wherein at least one brush ring carrier has on its first end face a shoulder with a circumferential slot and at least one second brush ring carrier has on its second end face a continuous projection, with a latching nose, and the projection and the latching nose of the second brush ring carrier cooperates with the shoulder and with the circumferential slot of an adjacently arranged first brush ring carrier.

15. (new) The brush seal as claimed in claim 12, wherein at least one brush ring carrier has on its first end face a shoulder with a circumferential slot and the at least one brush ring carrier has on its second end face a continuous projection, with a latching nose, and the projection and the latching nose of the second end face of the at least one brush ring carrier cooperates with the shoulder and with the circumferential slot of an adjacently arranged further brush ring carrier.

16. (new) The brush seal as claimed in claim 12, wherein one brush ring carrier is held at least indirectly on the stator.

17. (new) The brush seal as claimed in claim 12, wherein the circumferential slot is located in the brush ring carrier mounted first on the stator, and the latching nose is located in the newly pushed-on brush ring carrier.

18. (new) The brush seal as claimed in claim 12, wherein the brush ring carrier or brush ring carriers have a support plate that extends in the direction of the rotor and the brush rings bear axially against the support plate.

19. (new) The brush seal as claimed in claim 12, wherein the brush ring carrier or brush ring carriers have a protective ring.

20. (new) The brush seal as claimed in claim 19, wherein the support plate and/or the protective ring are designed to be radially elastic.

21. (new) The brush seal as claimed in claim 12, wherein the brush seal is designed as a radial seal or axial seal.

22. (new) The brush seal as claimed in claim 12, wherein the rotor to be sealed off has at least one continuous bead, and in that the at least one bead is arranged so as to be offset with respect to the brush ring or brush rings.